

CASH-INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.  
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## Richmond Dispatch.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1877.

## THE YEAR'S RECORD.

SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF  
RICHMOND IN 1876.

## CITY GOVERNMENT.

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AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

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Her Taxable Values, Real and  
Personal Property.

## MANUFACTURES.

A Gratifying Exhibit Notwithstanding  
A Year of Great Depression  
In Business.

## MONEY AND COMMERCE.

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Fund Companies—Home and  
Foreign Shipping Trade—  
Railroad and Other  
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Taught During the Year.

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Roster of the Military—The Notable  
Deaths and Interesting Local  
Events of the Year—Mortu-  
ary-Work of the Cor-  
oner, &c., &c.

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to greater endeavors by our successes, and  
from the lessons of experience grow in wis-  
dom and strength.

## THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

At the death of the old year and the birth  
of the new, before the former is buried out  
of sight or the latter is received into our  
affection and favor, it is becoming and  
profitable to refresh the recollection of what  
was most notable in the departed. Like  
careful and prudent merchants and trade-  
men, who balance their books and estimate  
their profits and losses, it is our duty to run  
over the incidents of the twelve months  
gone, and to analyze the varied information  
we have gathered in order to make certain  
of our standing. As it is difficult to value  
a life till it is ended, or to reckon the gains  
of a voyage before the port is reached, so in  
the rapid current of business and the midst  
of traffic it is almost impossible to say  
whether or not progress is being made. On  
the 1st day of January, when there is a gen-  
eral lull for casting up of accounts, is pre-  
sented the very opportunity needed. With  
the record spread out before us and tables for  
comparison at hand, with leisure and calm-  
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## OUR MANUFACTURES.

Our annual tabular statement of the manufactures of Richmond for 1876 shows that the general depression in the business of the country has sensibly affected them, exhibiting a falling off in the sales of their products, as compared with 1875, of \$1,364,554; a reduction of 9 in the number of establishments at work, and of 505 in the number of hands employed. The falling off in the aggregate value of the products of our manufactures is largely owing to the lower prices which generally prevailed this year, and not to any marked diminution in the actual production. On the whole, the results of the year's work are satisfactory, and are really better than were anticipated during a year of unusual political excitement.

We give returns from 343 establishments, in which 11,247 hands were employed (a part of the year on short time), and whose sales amounted to \$22,424,680. We found our manufacturers generally hopeful in regard to the business prospects of the new year, and anticipating a decided increase of orders in the early spring. It is gratifying to know that very few of them think of reducing their working force during the winter.

Our shipping has made rapid advance, especially in the export of the cotton-gum, and coal. This is especially gratifying, as the benefits are distributed amongst nearly all classes.

As for business generally, wholesale and retail dealers, manufacturers and tradesmen, big and little, concur that but for the check following the election, a year would have been one of very marked improvement. As it was, November and December were blanks in the calendar so far as profits were concerned. Merchants who have been in business here for twenty-five or thirty years say in all their experience they never knew of a time of such complete prostration of financial operations. Nearly all that was done was done in ten months.

Our municipal affairs have been well and economically conducted, and, in the main, have been approved by the tax-payers and other citizens. The new reservoir, which was put into operation a year ago, has been dispensing its waters to householders generally in the form of clearer water, and has been particularly serviceable to those residing in elevated localities, who were before unprovided for. The efficiency of the Fire Department has been increased by new supplies of hose. The public schools grow steadily in usefulness and popularity, and additional buildings will soon be needed in order to accommodate the children demanding admittance.

From startling crimes, serious breaches of the peace, great fires, and many other ills that have befallen other communities, we have been happily exempt. The good report of Richmond as to health is enhanced by the decrease in the exhibit of mortality. In the list of dead, embracing those who were be- known to the public, will be found the names of Henry A. Wise, General Richardson, Thomas A. Dudley, James R. Dowell, James H. Binford, Dr. Dove, and others dear to our hearts. The Board of Health were prompt and vigilant in the discharge of their duties.

In religious and benevolent matters the city continues its preeminence. Our statistics prove that our church-going population is unusually large, and that in active ben- evolence and the support of charitable institutions we can justly claim to be peer of any municipality of our population and wealth. Having withstood the rudest shocks of battle, borne our share of disaster and trouble, and been pretty thoroughly trained in the school of adversity, and through all made steady progress and no halt, it is not too much to expect that in the future (which now seems full of promise) we will achieve important distinction and place R. among high up on the list of great cities.

And now we invite our readers to search the record we here present and say if we have overdrawn the picture or encouraged without cause.

## THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

Mayor, W. C. Carrington.

City Attorney, A. M. Kelley.

Treasurer, S. C. Greenhow.

Clerk to Treasurer, D. A. Cardwell.

Auditor, James B. Royster.

Clerk to Auditor, E. McCarthy.

City Engineer, W. E. Cuthbert.

Assistant City Engineer, S. E. Bates.

Clerk to City Engineer, S. B. Jacobs.

Superintendent of Public Schools, James H. Peay.

Police Justice, Joseph J. White.

Clerk to Police Justice, D. C. Richardson.

Superintendent of Gas-Works, John H. Knowles.

Foreman and Clerk of Gas-Works, W. C. Adams.

Gas Inspector, W. H. Page.

Superintendent of Water-Works, James L. Davis.

Assistant Superintendent of Water-Works, W. J. Riddick.

Chief of Police, John Poe, Jr.

Surgeon of Police, Dr. C. W. P. Brock.

Clerk to Police Force, Wallace Washington.

Chief of Fire Department, George A. Ainslie.

Superintendent of Almshouse, Charles P. Bigger.

Assistant Superintendent of Almshouse, W. J. Epps.